

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 9, paragraph beginning on line 4

FIG. 3 illustrates one embodiment of a vertebroplasty cannula 21 with a EAP transducer 120 deployed under electrical charge. The transducer 120 is permanently mounted in the cannula and the ~~EAP~~ ~~EPA~~ 23 spans an aperture 24 in the cannula 21. In the initial position, without electrical charge, the transducer is housed within the cannula. The procedure may or may not include a guide cannula (not shown) through which the cannula 21 accesses the cancellous bone area within any skeletal bone. Once the cannula 21 is in a desired location, an electrical charge is directed along cable 25 which connects the transducer, through the cannula, from the electronic control 26 unit. The ~~EAP~~ ~~EPA~~ of the transducer 120 is deformed by the charge to a second position, as shown in the FIG. 3. The EAP 23 may or may not be pre-strained before attachment about the aperture 24 to increase the deformation. The deformation results in the cancellous bone being compressed or tamped and forming a cavity within the cortical bone. The electrical stimulation is turned off by the control unit 26 and the transducer returns to its first position within the cannula 21. The cannula 21 can then be withdrawn. Another cannula may be inserted through the guide cannula and PMMA or other biological material may be introduced to the cavity.